THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) to (c) The former Chairman of Coal India Limited was not in custody of the Share Certificate of Coal India Ltd. which stood in his name on behalf of the President of India. On expiry of his term of office he had to sign the transfer form; this he did on being asked to do so by the Department of Coal. No Departmental action is warranted in the circumstances of the case.

Price reduction of Low Density Polyethyline

513. SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to reduce the price of low density polyethyliner (LDPE);

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the reduced price will lead to the complete stoppage of production of LDPE in the country?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) At present Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd. (IPCL), a Central Public Sector Undertaking, is the only manufacturer of LDPE in the country. As the domestic availability of LDPE is significantly short of the indigenous demand, import of LDPE is allowed on OGL for actual users as well as for stock and sale; IPCL has been effecting imports of LDPE to cater to the requirements of small scale units who find it difficult to organise imports on their own. IPCL offers indigenous and imported LDPE to the consumers at a pooled price which is adjusted from time to time depending upon the landed cost of imports. The pooled price was reduced by around Rs. 3 Kg. in December, 1988.

This reduction in the pooled price will have no adverse impact on the production of LDPE in the country.

Complaints against CMD of NEEPCO

514. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about several cases having been filed in the courts against the Chairman-cum-Managing Director of North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited, Shillong;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) to (c) The North Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO) have informed that, as at present, excepting one case filed in the Court by one officer of the Corporation, challenging the promotion order of the Executive Engineers to the next grade of Superintending Engineers, and seniority of some of the promotees, no other case, or Notice from the Court, are currently pending.

Telephone facilities in rural post offices

515. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to have telephone facilities in all post offices of the country;

(b) what is the percentage of urban and rural telephone connections in the country;

(c) by when all rural areas will have telephone facilities in the country; and

(d) what is the plan thereof?